

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERMISSIONS BASED ACTIVE  
DOCUMENT WORKFLOW**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Techniques for designing and processing a workflow that can be refined or modified based upon information associated with a document processed by the workflow. Since the author of the document may configure the information associated with a document that is used to determine if a workflow is to be modified, the present invention enables a document author, in addition to the workflow designer, to control processing of a document in a workflow. The documents themselves specify portions of the overall processing within a workflow net. Permissions information may be specified for the workflow and for the documents. The permissions information may specify which documents can modify the workflow, the manner in which the workflow is modified, and which documents can be processed according to the modified workflow.

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